

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method of comprising:

receiving a call connection request message having a prefix number;

determining a corresponding IP address based on the prefix number;

assigning a label based on the corresponding IP address; and, routing the call connection request message based on the label.

2. The method of claim 1, further including:

creating an entry in a routing table containing an IP address and a set of prefix numbers associated to the IP address, the IP address being assigned to a central office that handles calls for the set of prefix numbers.

3. The method of claim 2, further including:

transmitting an update message containing the IP address and the set of prefix numbers.

4. The method of claim 1, where the prefix number is in a format conforming to ITU E.164, ~~representing~~ a set of numbers having a country code portion and a national significance portion.

5. An article comprising a computer readable medium having instructions stored thereon, which when executed, causes:

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3 receiving a call connection request message having a prefix
4 number;
5 determining a corresponding IP address based on the prefix
6 number;
7 assigning a label based on the corresponding IP address; and,
8 routing the call connection request message based on the
9 label.

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1 6. The article of claim 5, wherein the computer readable medium
2 further having instructions stored thereon, which when executed,
3 causes:

4 creating an entry in a routing table containing an IP address
5 and a set of prefix numbers associated to the IP address, the IP
6 address being assigned to a central office that handles calls for
7 the set of prefix numbers.

1 7. The article of claim 6, wherein the computer readable medium
2 further having instructions stored thereon, which when executed,
3 causes:

4 transmitting an update message containing the IP address and
5 the set of prefix numbers.

1 8. The article of claim 5, where the prefix number is in a
2 format conforming to ITU E.164, representing a set of numbers
3 having a country code portion and a national significance portion.

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1 9. An apparatus for transporting data using label switching
2 comprising:
3 a processor;

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4 a computer readable medium having instructions stored
5 thereon, which when executed, causes the processor to:
6 receive a call connection request message having a prefix
7 number;
8 determine a corresponding IP address based on the prefix
9 number;
10 assign a label based on the corresponding IP address; and,
11 route the call connection request message based on the label.

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1 10. The apparatus of claim 9, where the computer readable medium
2 further having instructions stored thereon, which when executed,
3 causes the processor to:
4 create an entry in a routing table containing an IP address
5 and a set of prefix numbers associated to the IP address, the IP
6 address being assigned to a central office that handles calls for
7 the set of prefix numbers.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 10, where the computer readable medium
2 further having instructions stored thereon, which when executed,
3 causes the processor to:
4 transmit an update message containing the IP address and the
5 set of prefix numbers.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 9, where the prefix number is in a
2 format conforming to ITU E.164, representing a set of numbers
3 having a country code portion and a national significance portion.

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